

**SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
SECTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS**

POST ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

ENVIRONMENTAL RECOMMENDATIONS IN STB DOCKET NO. AB-33 (Sub-No. 230X)

January 12, 2007

ABANDONMENT TYPE

The time for comments on the Environmental Assessment (EA) has expired in this:

() Notice of Exemption (X) Petition for Exemption () Regulated Abandonment

(X) NO NEW COMMENTS WERE RECEIVED

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SEA served an Environmental Assessment (EA) for this proceeding on December 8, 2006, for public review and comment. In the EA, SEA recommended four environmental conditions and concluded that the proposed action would not significantly impact the quality of the human environment.

Conclusions

The EA comment period has ended. Accordingly, SEA recommends that the following conditions previously recommended in the EA should be imposed upon any decision granting abandonment authority:

1. Union Pacific Railroad Corporation (UP) shall consult with the United States Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) prior to commencement of any salvage activities to assess potential impacts to the endangered Carson wandering skipper (*Pseudocopaeodes eunus obscurus*), and identify any appropriate mitigation measures that may be warranted. UP shall report the results of this consultation in writing to the Board's Section of Environmental Analysis prior to beginning salvage activities.
2. Union Pacific Railroad Corporation (UP) shall consult with the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Water Pollution Control (BWPC) prior to commencement of any salvage activities to address BWPC's water permitting requirements.
3. Union Pacific Railroad Corporation (UP) shall notify the National Geodetic Survey (NGS) at least 90 days prior to beginning salvage activities in order to plan for the possible relocation of geodetic station markers by NGS.

4. Union Pacific Railroad Corporation (UP) shall retain its interest in and take no steps to alter the historic integrity of all sites, buildings, and structures within the project right-of-way that are eligible for listing or listed in the National Register of Historic Places (generally, 50 years old or older) until the Section 106 process of the National Historic Preservation Act, 16 U.S.C. 470f, has been completed. UP shall report back to the Section of Environmental Analysis regarding any consultations with the Nevada State Historic Preservation Office (NV SHPO) and the California Office of Historic Preservation (California State Historic Preservation Office or CA SHPO) and any other Section 106 consulting parties. UP may not file its consummation notice or initiate any salvage activities related to abandonment (including removal of tracks and ties) until the Section 106 process has been completed and the Board has removed this condition.

If the above conditions are imposed, SEA believes that the proposed action will not significantly affect the quality of the human environment.

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Original to Ann Newman, Office of Proceedings. Copies furnished to SEA Chron and ECT.